

## What is Neighborhood Watch?

- Neighborhood Watch is a non-confrontational crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of neighborhood residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime in their community.
- It is neighbors getting to know each other and taking the time to care about each other. It is a program of mutual assistance and security.
- It is neighbors trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhood and report that activity to local law enforcement.
- The Neighborhood Watch program employs the best crime fighting tool ever invented – a watchful neighbor.

## Why Neighborhood Watch?

- Law enforcement officers cannot be on every block. Neighborhood Watch members can be. Dozens of alert eyes and ears can make a difference.
- Residents are the people who really know their neighborhood and may recognize when someone or something is suspect.
- Neighborhood Watch participants serve as eyes and ears **ONLY**. They observe and report suspicious activity. They do not act as law enforcement.

## Duties of Neighborhood Watch Volunteers

### Duties of Block Leader:

- Meet all residents on your block.
- Explain the purpose of the Neighborhood Watch Program.
- Enlist block residents to participate in the program to be aware of happenings on their block.
- Explain procedures for reporting any suspicious person or activity to law enforcement.
- Assist neighbors in identification of security needs.
- Be aware of special needs of neighbors
- Be aware of and report neighborhood maintenance needs (i.e. street light outages).
- Organize block activities to support Neighborhood watch and neighborhood interaction.

### Duties of a Neighborhood Watch participant:

- Get to know your neighbors.
- Exchange telephone numbers and emergency contact information.
- Be alert to activity on your street. Know when something is suspicious.
- Learn when and how to contact Travis County Sheriff's Office to make a report.
- Remember that Neighborhood Watch participants serve as eyes and ears only. They **DO NOT** attempt to apprehend. That is the responsibility of law enforcement.